

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks.

Claims 1-20 remain pending in this application in their original form. The title, abstract and Fig. 20 have been amended to address the issues raised in the Office Action. As such, Applicants respectfully submit that all claims pending in this application are in condition for allowance.

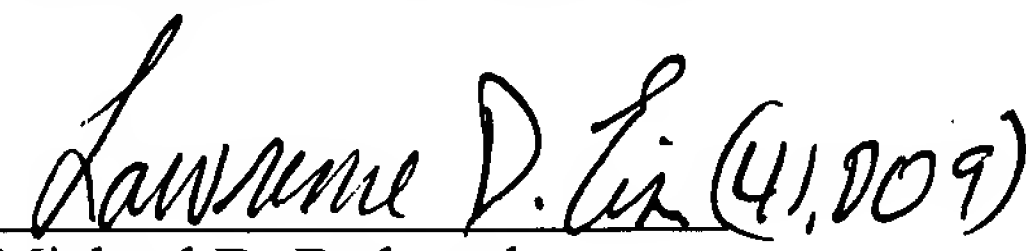
Should the Examiner have any questions or determine that any further action is desirable to place this application in even better condition for issue, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone applicants' undersigned representative at the number listed below.

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Date: December 27, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

HISAYOSHI FUJIMOTO ET AL.

By:  (41,009)
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Attachments:

MDB/LDE/dkp

Customer No. 28970

Serial No.: 09/744,161
Art Unit: 2682

Attorney's Docket No.: KIX0128-US
Page 10

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached drawing sheet includes changes to Fig. 20. This sheet, which includes Fig. 20, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 20.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet